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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Yugoslav-Bulgarian Frontier

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SOURCE

- The Yugoslav fear of an attack from Bulgaria is illustrated by the recent general mobilization plan for transportation which anticipates action from the East. The plan, until it was changed by the Yugoslav high command in November 1949, was based on an attack from the West.
- 2. The Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier is continuously being reinforced with mobile troops and KNOJ units. Cheval-de-frise and also barbed wire, allegedly purchased from Austria and Italy, is being erected along the border. Long range cannon, reportedly being moved from the Dalmatian coast and western frontiers, are being set up in a radius of approximately four kilometers from the Bulgarian frontier.
- Hand grenade explosions and machine gun volleys are reportedly heard nightly along the border area. Yugoslav and Bulgarians daily verify the border line, although this usually results in a number of deaths. In the movement of money, agents, arms and propaganda material, the Bulgarians are more active, more determined, better prepared and supplied than the Yugoslavs. Bulgarian agents, such as Kosta Talaff, who have been operating in Yugoslavia for months, have been creating a serious problem for the UDB and the Yugoslav Security forces. A native of Varna, Talaff is a successful operative running an unspecified number of Cominform cells on Yugoslav territory.
- 4. Recently the Yugoslav militia and UDB in Macedonia has been considerably reinforced. Squads in mufti patrol the entire Republic. Travel control is stringent and it is believed that the UDB will soon require internal passes for travel into Macedonia.
- 5. Ministers and inspectors of the Yugoslav Government, especially from the Ministries of Interior and War, are frequently in Macedonia. A sizeable number of generals and staff officers are currently making inspection tours in this area. Members of the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Communist Party are often in Skoplje on special missions.
- 6. On 22 November 1949, a school for training intelligence service agents and propagandists for foreign operations was opened in Tuzla. Approximately

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fifty students attend the school, mostly determined Macedonian Titoists. The courses are of six months duration and after careful selection, those who have completed the course are placed at the disposal of an anti-Cominform commission for assignment. Instructors, Army or UDB officers and agents, experienced in anti-Cominform work, are assigned abroad. 25X1X

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